



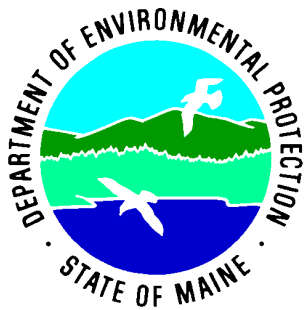
# Maine Stream Team Program NEWS

Networking, Education, and Stewardship

Volume 2 Issue 1

Winter 2002

## Stream Team Profiles:



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### Windsor Stream Team

You may have seen the Windsor Stream Team on the news in October! This team kicked off their year-long study of nonpoint source pollution\* by stenciling 46 storm drains on the streets of Portland. The Windsor team is comprised of eighty-nine 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at the King Middle School in Portland. Led by science teacher Ruth MacLean, the students have planned a smorgasbord of projects which are all focused on the stewardship of their stream, Capisic Brook. Last spring, a speaker from the Coast Guard was invited to talk to the students about local environmental problems that affect the ocean.

Continued on page 4 . . .



King Middle School students

### Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition Stream Team



Team members stencil storm drains

On July 28, 2001, the Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition/Stream Team undertook their second annual storm drain stenciling project throughout the Town of Houlton. Members and local volunteers worked their way down the main streets, stenciling over 220 drains with the important message, "Don't Dump! Protect Your Water."

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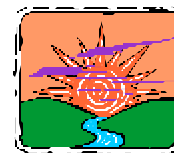
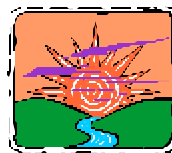
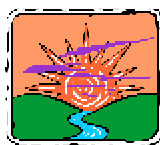
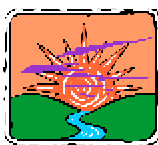
**\*Nonpoint source pollution** is also called *polluted runoff*. It has many diffuse sources such as parking lots, driveways, roads, farms, and lawns.

**Point source pollution** is discharge from a specific site, such as an industrial outfall pipe.



Check us  
out on the  
web!  
[www.state.  
me.us/dep/  
blwq/](http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/)

## Calendar



**Tools for Watershed Protection: A Workshop for Local Government.** January 24 & 25, 2002. Colonnade Hotel, Boston, MA. This free two-day workshop is part of a national series organized by US EPA to bring cutting edge information and experience to water resource managers at local and regional government levels, and to foster comprehensive planning. As more communities grapple with the apparent conflicts between economic development and resource conservation, these workshops provide a foundation for specific actions that communities can take to protect both their environmental assets and their potential for prosperity. The goal of these workshops is to involve public and private interests in a way that achieves both quality development and protection of vital water resources. For more information contact Ellen Barros at 508-833-6600 Ext. 101 or by email at <ebarros@horsleywitten.com>

**Next MSTP Newsletter submissions deadline—** April 10, 2002.

**Maine Shore Stewards STEP Institute: Strengthening Environmental Group Process.** April 13, 2002. Augusta, ME. This one-day program supporting conservation/monitoring groups will provide tools and strategies to meet the organizational and human challenges of working together on environmental issues. The theme areas are: Building an Effective Team, Group Development, and Fundraising. Participants will leave with: a personalized group action plan, ideas provided by skilled presenters, networking contacts, resources for on-going support from local organizations, and handouts on a variety of topics. Attendees from the following coastal and inland-based groups are encouraged to attend: environmental monitoring and stewardship organizations, conservation committees, land trusts, and watershed groups. For more information, visit <www.ume.maine.edu/ssteward/> (details expected here by early February) or call 1-800-244-2104 (ME only). (Cosponsored by the Maine Stream Team Program, University of ME Cooperative Extension, Maine Sea Grant, and Maine Department of Marine Resources.)

**58th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference.** April 21 - 24, 2002. Holiday Inn By The Bay; Portland, ME. Conference Theme: "The Public Trust". Sessions are scheduled for Business and Licensing Administration, Freshwater/Anadromous Fisheries, Marine Fisheries, Conservation Law Enforcement, Wildlife, Information and Education, Human Dimensions, and Conservation Engineering. For more information, visit <www.mefishwildlife.com>.

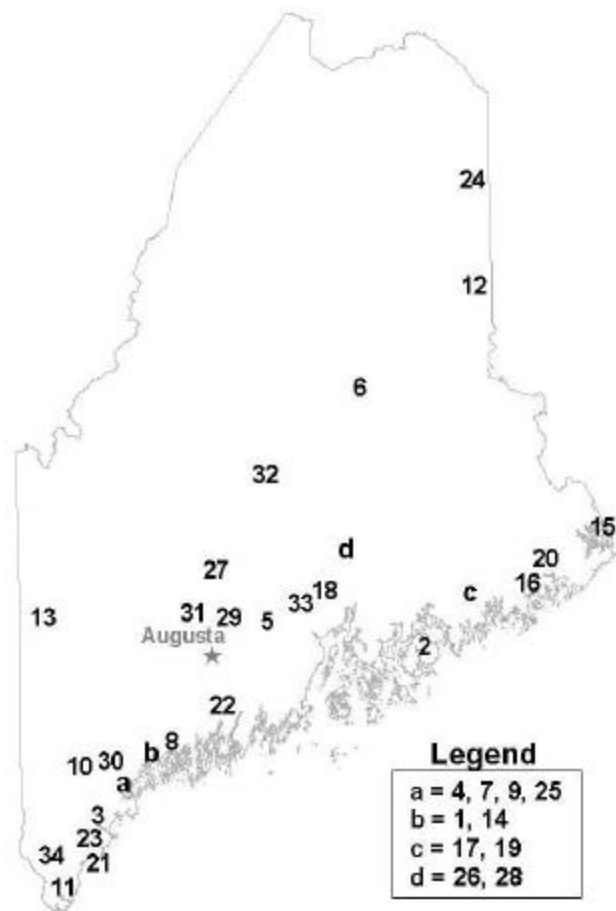
**National River Rally 2002.** May 17-21, 2002. Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Asheville, NC. A comprehensive conference that offers workshops for all those working to understand, restore, and protect rivers and streams. Workshops in leadership development, organizational development, watershed science, self-care and much more. Visit the Riverwork website at <rivernetwork.org>.

**12th Annual Nonpoint Source Conference.** May 21 - 23, 2002. Spruce Point Inn, Boothbay Harbor, ME. This conference is designed to share experiences on a range of New England's state and local actions aimed at controlling nonpoint source (NPS) pollution to restore or protect watersheds. It will be an opportunity to attend presentations about how Maine's NPS professionals and citizen volunteers are working to protect clean water. *Who should attend?* The conference is designed for state and federal agency NPS staff, conservation district staff, consultants, municipal officials, watershed associations and anyone involved in NPS management. The conference will be sponsored by the Maine DEP, EPA, and the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission Nonpoint Source Workgroup. The full conference agenda will be distributed in March 2002. For more information, visit <www.state.me.us/dep/blwq> or contact Norm Marcotte at 287-7727.



## Stream Teams Around the State!

### Team #      Stream Team Name



This map will soon be a searchable database.  
We'll keep you posted!



- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Frost Gully ST                                    |
| 2  | Mt. Desert Island Water Quality Coalition ST      |
| 3  | Saco River (Watershed) Salmon Club Hatchery ST    |
| 4  | Portland High School ST                           |
| 5  | Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance                |
| 6  | Clean Streams Team                                |
| 7  | Presumpscot River Watch                           |
| 8  | Great Gully Creek ST                              |
| 9  | Hall ST   |
| 10 | Bonny Eagle ST                                    |
| 11 | Josias River ST                                   |
| 12 | Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition                   |
| 13 | Sunday River ST                                   |
| 14 | Concord Gully ST                                  |
| 15 | Project SHARE                                     |
| 16 | Machias Team                                      |
| 17 | Narraguagus River Watershed Council               |
| 18 | Cove Brook Watershed Council                      |
| 19 | Friends of Tunk ST                                |
| 20 | East Machias Watershed ST                         |
| 21 | Coastal Conservation Association - So. ME Chapter |
| 22 | Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association Team    |
| 23 | Biddeford ST                                      |
| 24 | Easton Prestile ST                                |
| 25 | Windsor ST  |
| 26 | Penjajawoc/Meadow Brook Stream Team               |
| 27 | Cold Brook Stream Team                            |
| 28 | T.B.A.  |
| 29 | Sebasticook River Watershed Association           |
| 30 | REAL School Stream Team                           |
| 31 | Belgrade Region                                   |
| 32 | Guilford of Maine Stream Team                     |
| 33 | Marsh Stream Watershed Association                |
| 34 | Great Works Stream Team                           |

## Windsor

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Through an essay-writing voting process, the students had voted to spend this school year working on the problem of nonpoint source pollution (NPS). The team began this fall by designing and producing their own storm drain stencils that say "To the Bay" and feature fish and waves. After consulting the Portland Public Works Department to determine which storm drains feed into Capisic, and ultimately Casco Bay, the team took to the streets to spread their message.

The Windsor Team has pulled the Gulf of Maine Aquarium into their study as well. The Aquarium has loaned Palm Pilots to the students to help with data collection in the field. In November, the students took the hand-held computers out to their 4 test sites along the stream where they took GPS (global positioning system) coordinates and photographs of the stream and also made habitat observations. Once back in the classroom, the palm pilots were hooked up to a computer with internet access and the data collected in the field was uploaded to the Gulf of Maine Aquarium's web site. This website (currently under construction) will make water quality information collected by students across the country available to the public. The team also plans to collect and upload information on water temperature, levels of dissolved oxygen, nitrates, phosphates, pH, and salinity. Other future projects will involve public education about the problem of NPS pollution, including the creation of educational pamphlets and a partnership with Time Warner Cable to produce two public service announcements for TV. For more information about the Windsor Stream Team and their study of nonpoint source pollution, e-mail <benthiczones@yahoo.com> or visit their web page at <www.NPSPollution.org>.

(by Brie A. Begiebing)

### The Windsor Stream Team at Work



Storm drain stenciling



Collecting a sample for water quality monitoring



At Capisic Brook test site # 2, where the stream meets Casco Bay



**Meduxnekeag**

(continued from cover) . . .

. . . The Coalition hopes to raise awareness about the direct route storm drains take to nearby streams, rivers, lakes and coastal areas. Locally, storm drains throughout Houlton empty into the Meduxnekeag River. That means any eroded soil, motor oil, gasoline, fertilizer, pet wastes, or soaps from washing vehicles can be washed into the aquatic life of the Meduxnekeag River. From there, these pollutants flow downstream to the St. John River and into the Bay of Fundy, harming fish, insects, and wildlife along the way. Knowing this, the Coalition plans to continue to stencil messages above storm drains educating residents about the impacts of nonpoint source pollution. The Coalition also wrote an article to the local paper and the Bangor Daily encouraging area residents to recognize the importance of keeping pollutants out of storm drains. Team leader Dave Saunders can be reached at <davesaundershtm@ainop.com>.

(by Tandy Bordner).

**Thinking of conducting  
your own storm drain  
stenciling project?**

This website has information on how to do it! <<http://www.epa.gov/adopt/patch/guidelines.html>> Questions? Contact Brie Begiebing at 822-6427 or <[brie.begiebing@state.me.us](mailto:brie.begiebing@state.me.us)>.

**Help Wanted**

**Litter pickup, Augusta.** Volunteers wanted for a litter pick-up on a small section of the Kennebec Riverbank. The site is located at the end of York Street in Augusta, and it would take a 5 person crew about 2-3 hours to complete. To volunteer or for more information contact Roy Rike at (207) 287-4867.

**Congratulations Awardees of  
MSTP Mini-Grants 2001!!**

ST = Stream Team



Bonny Eagle Stream Team (ST #10)



Great Works River Watershed Monitoring Coalition (ST # 34)



Mount Desert Island Water Quality Coalition (ST # 2)



Tunk Stream Team (ST #19)



**!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Attention Stream Team Leaders!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Please try to keep your members as up to date on Maine Stream Team Program (MSTP) events and resources as possible. In some cases, team leaders are the only members of teams with whom the MSTP maintains contact. Also, please note that anyone is welcome to sign up to receive our newsletter. Just provide us with the addresses of others who want to be on our mailing list. You are also welcome to make copies of the newsletter.



5th grade students from the Hall Stream Team identify aquatic macroinvertebrates



The Bonny Eagle Stream Team studies aquatic macroinvertebrates in Little River

## Looking for Capacity Building Resources?

Check out this EPA website put together by the Nonpoint Source Capacity Building and Funding Work Group. It provides watershed groups and local governments with links to technical tools for scientific support, engineering support, information technology, assistance with legal issues, project management, outreach, and planning support. It also provides links to legal resources for activities such as permitting, enforcement, contracting, fund raising, and resource management. Visit: [www.epa.gov/owow/nps/capacity/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/capacity/index.htm).

## **\$\$ Funding Section \$\$**

**River Restoration Grants**—American Rivers is seeking proposals for community-based river restoration grants as part of its new partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program. These grants are designed to provide support for local communities that are utilizing dam removal or fish passage to restore and protect the ecological integrity of their rivers and improve freshwater habitats important to migratory (anadromous) fish. The next deadline is **April 1, 2002**. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact American Rivers to discuss potential projects prior to submitting an application. For a complete application go to the American Rivers web site <[www.amrivers.org/feature/restorationgrants.htm](http://www.amrivers.org/feature/restorationgrants.htm)> or contact Peter Raabe, River Restoration Finance Associate, American Rivers, 1025 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 720, Washington, DC 20005. Tel: (202) 347-7550 x3006 e-mail: <[rivergrants@amrivers.org](mailto:rivergrants@amrivers.org)>.

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**— The NFWF Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grant program is for community based restoration programs for fisheries and wildlife. The closing date is **March 1, 2002**. Funded in part by NOAA Fisheries Community Based Restoration Program and US EPA the program promotes community-based restoration of wetlands, riparian habitat, and coastal habitats. The program promotes local diverse partnerships and local resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities. See their website at <[www.nfwf.org/programs/grant\\_apply.htm](http://www.nfwf.org/programs/grant_apply.htm)> for more information.

**New England Grassroots Environment Fund** — The purpose of this fund is to increase engagement and participation in grassroots environmental initiatives and to build and connect healthy, sustainable, communities in New England. This particular fund is designed to help increase the number of citizens involved in concrete action. The Fund's primary objectives are building networks, increasing community involvement, and fostering environmental stewardship. Grants typically range from \$500- \$2,500. Applications accepted any time for three funding cycles: **January 15, May 1, and September 15**. For more information go to: <[www.grassrootsfund.org](http://www.grassrootsfund.org)> or contact Cheryl King Fischer at <[cfischer@plainfield.bypass.com](mailto:cfischer@plainfield.bypass.com)> or call (802)223-4622.

**Outdoor Heritage Foundation**-- The Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund conserves wildlife and open spaces through the sale of instant Lottery tickets. With proceeds from ticket sales, grants are awarded twice a year. Deadline to submit proposals is **March 1 and September 1**. Any entity interested in obtaining funding for a conservation or recreation project from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund must apply through one of 16 designated state Natural Resource Agencies. For more information go to: <[www.state.me.us/ifw/outdoorheritage/homepage.htm](http://www.state.me.us/ifw/outdoorheritage/homepage.htm)>.

**Environmental Education Program/Project Grants**—Visit the EPA's "Grants" website for links that will help you connect your ideas for environmental education programs or projects with the financial resources to make them happen. Detailed information on the EPA environmental education grant program, links to grant resources, and a grant writing tutorial are available at <[www.epa.gov/teachers/grants.htm](http://www.epa.gov/teachers/grants.htm)>.

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## How Do I Join the MSTP?

It's easy! First, choose a stream or stream segment. Next, either obtain a "stream team registration form" by contacting us or fill out the online registration form. After registering, you will receive some helpful information and begin to receive our quarterly newsletter to help you stay up-to-date!

Membership to the program is free to any interested citizen, family, or organization! Once you have a "Team" and a stream, you're set! You can determine your stream's values and problems and you can plan projects based on your assessments. You establish the course of events in protecting your stream. The Maine Stream Team Program can help you with ideas, advice, and informational materials!

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### Contact The Maine Stream Team Program (MSTP):

**Mail:** Maine Stream Team Program  
c/o Maine DEP  
312 Canco Road  
Portland, Maine 04103

**E-mail:** [mstp@state.me.us](mailto:mstp@state.me.us)

**Internet:** [www.state.me.us/dep/blwq](http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq)

**Phone:** (888)769-1036 (toll free – ask for the Maine Stream Team Program);  
(207)822-6317 (Jeff Varricchione); (207)822-6427 (Brie Begiebing)

Deadline for submitting calendar items, articles, or profiles for the spring newsletter is April 10, 2002.

Thanks!

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Maine Stream Team Program  
c/o Maine DEP  
312 Canco Road  
Portland, Maine 04103

